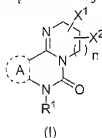


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions presented in the application.

1 (previously presented): A compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof represented by Formula (I):



wherein R¹ represents a hydrogen atom, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or substituted or unsubstituted aromatic heterocyclic group; n represents an integer of 0 to 3; X¹ and X² may be the same or different and each represents a hydrogen atom, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or substituted or unsubstituted aromatic heterocyclic group; and formula (II):



represents formula (III):



wherein X-Y-Z represents R²C=CR³-NR⁴ (wherein R², R³ and R⁴ may be the same or different and each represents a hydrogen atom, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or substituted or unsubstituted aromatic

heterocyclic group), $R^2C=N-NR^4$ (wherein R^2 and R^4 have the same meanings as defined above, respectively), $R^4N-CR^3=CR^2$ (wherein R^2 , R^3 and R^4 have the same meanings as defined above, respectively), or $R^4N-N=CR^2$ (wherein R^2 and R^4 have the same meanings as defined above, respectively) or formula (IV):



wherein $Xa-Ya-Za$ represents $R^2HC-NR^3-CHR^4$ (wherein R^2 , R^3 and R^4 have the same meanings as defined above, respectively), R^2HC-NR^3-NH (wherein R^2 and R^3 have the same meanings as defined above, respectively), or $NH-NR^3-CHR^4$ (wherein R^3 and R^4 have the same meanings as defined above, respectively).

2 (previously presented): The compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein R^1 is substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl.

3 (previously presented): The compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein R^3 is substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl.

4 (previously presented): The compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein X^1 is substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl and X^2 is a hydrogen atom.

5 (previously presented): A Pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1 as an active ingredient.

6-13 (canceled).

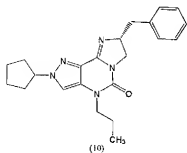
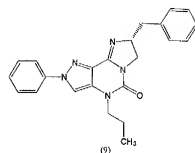
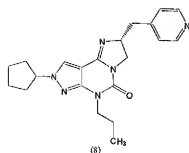
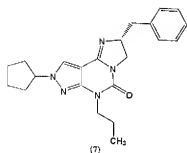
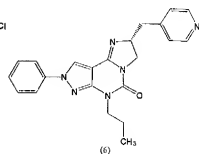
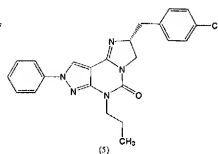
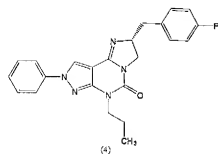
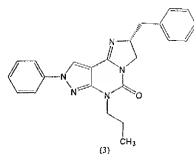
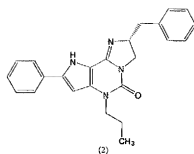
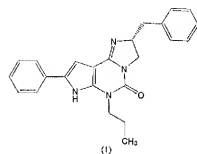
14 (previously presented): A method for treating diabetes, which comprises administering an effective amount of the compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1.

15 (previously presented): A method for treating diabetic complications, which comprises administering an effective amount of the compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1.

16 (previously presented): A method for lowering blood glucose levels, which comprises administering an effective amount of the compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1.

17 (previously presented): A method for stimulating secretion of insulin, which comprises administering an effective amount of the compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1.

18 (previously presented): A compound represented by the formula selected from the group consisting of the following Formulas (1) to (10):



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

19 (previously presented): A method for treating diabetic complications, which comprises administering an effective amount of the compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 18.

20 (previously presented): A method for lowering blood glucose levels, which comprises administering an effective amount of the compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 18.

21 (previously presented): A method for stimulating secretion of insulin, which comprises administering an effective amount of the compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 18.

22 (new): A method for treating diabetes, which comprises administering an effective amount of the compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 18.